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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Donald W. Petersen et al.

Art Unit : 1651

Serial No. : 09/915,997

Examiner : Witz, Jean C.

Filed : July 26, 2001

Title : BONE GRAFT SUBSTITUTE COMPOSITION

RECEIVED

MAY 28 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed March 22, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please add new claims 16-27:

2126(2) 31-16. A bone graft substitute composition, consisting of:

calcium sulfate hemihydrate;

a mixing solution; and

a plasticizing substance.

33 31 37. The composition of claim 16, wherein the plasticizing substance comprises a cellulose derivative.

B' 33 31 18. The composition of claim 16, wherein the plasticizing substance is selected from a group consisting of sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, and cellulose acetate butyrate.

34 31 19. The composition of claim 16, wherein the plasticizing substance comprises hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose.

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